

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ABU DH 01691 040809Z

17

ACTION SCCT-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-06 ISO-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 EB-07 H-01 INR-05 IO-10 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

NSCE-00 SP-02 PRS-01 RSC-01 SS-15 USIE-00 USSS-00

SY-04 FAA-00 WRD-01 OC-01 /075 W

----- 072985

R 040520Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2302

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABU DHABI 1691

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AIR, PFOR, TC

SUBJECT: VC-10 HIJACKING: AIRPORT SAFETY

REF: STATE 258289

1. I HAD MOMENT ALONE WITH UAE DEFENSE MINISTER SHAIKH MUHAMMAD IBN RASHID DECEMBER 1 DURING VISIT BY AMBASSADOR HELMS TO DUBAI. I TOLD HIM OF OUR READINESS TO ASSIST FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS TO STRENGTHEN AIRPORT SECURITY, AND GAVE EXAMPLES OF SORT OF ASSISTANCE WE COULD PROVIDE FOR A-570. I TOLD MUHAMMAD THAT IT SEEMED OPPORTUNE TO REMIND UAEG OF THIS OFFER IN LIGHT OF DUBAI HIJACKING.

2. MUHAMMAD EXPRESSED APPRECIATION AND SAID HE WOULD BEAR OUR OFFER IN MIND. I ASKED HIM WHAT HIS REACTION WAS TO HIJACKING. HE SAID HE WAS NOT VERY HAPPY ABOUT IT. THE AIRPORT GUARDS ON HAND AT THE TIME HAD NOT FIRED A SHOT AND AS RESULT THEY WERE NOW IN JAIL. THEY HAD CLAIMED THEY COULD NOT FIRE WITHOUT HURTING PASSENGERS, ESCUSE WHICH MUHAMMAD SAID HE DID NOT ACCEPT. "SOME CHANGES WILL BE MADE", HE SAID, BUT HE SEEMED RELUCTANT TO GO INTO FURTHER DETAIL. FROM OTHER SOURCES WE HEAR SHAIKH RASHID WAS EXTREMELY UPSET, SO MUCH SO THAT HE WAS UNWILLING TO DISCUSS SUBJECT FOR DAYS WITH MANY OF THOSE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ABU DH 01691 040809Z

CLOSE TO HI.

3. SHAIKH MUHAMMAD TOLD ME THAT PLO REP HERE CALLED ON RASHID AS SOON AS HE COULD AND HAD REPUDIATED HIJACKING AND ASSURED RASHID PLO HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT. MUHAMMAD SAID PLO HAD IN FACT "TOLD US" COUPLE OF MONTHS AGO THAT THEY HAD LEARNED THERE WAS GROUP IN DUBAI PLANNING HIJACKING OF AIRCRAFT. MUHAMMAD SAID WITH THIS REPORT DUBAI INTERNAL SECURITY HAD BEGUN INVESTIGATION, BUT GROUP ACTED BEFORE AUTHORITIES COULD FIND THEM.

4. WE WILL TAKE FIRST CONVENIENT OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE KNOWN TO ABU DHABI AUTHORITIES AS WELL OUR READINESS ASSIST IN STRENGTHENING AIRPORT SECURITY.
STERNER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRCRAFT HIJACKING, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, ANTIHIJACKING PROCEDURES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ABUDH01691
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740351-0441
From: ABU DHABI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741263/aaaacbm.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SCCT
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 258289
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 JUN 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <18 MAR 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VC-10 HIJACKING: AIRPORT SAFETY
TAGS: EAIR, PFOR, TC, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005